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The Bay Players Brighton Beach Memoirs at DES Auditorium



Cast members of *Brighton Beach Memoirs* include Matt Salloway (Stanley), Andy Lantz (Eugene), Adele Pevzner (Kate), and Bob Gillet (Jack).

Show Dates - Feb. 23, 24 and March 1 and 2

Neil Simon's heartfelt comedy *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, which the Bay Players are bringing into the DES auditorium on Feb. 23, 24 and March 1 and 2 at 8 pm, is all about family. The Jerome family of Brighton Beach, Brooklyn, battles the hard times of the Depression with fortitude and wit, but mostly with love. That, too, is how Duxbury's own Bay Players adjusted to a very different sort of "hard time," namely learning 2 weeks before opening night that their winter production had to be moved due to storm-related conflicts in the DJSHS Good Knight Theater.

Troopers carry on, and that is exactly what this veteran theater group did. Redesigning the set, restaging the show, and preparing to move to a different stage, the show will go on!

The director, Michael Pevzner, who was responsible for many Bay Players successes such as *1776*, *One Flew Over*

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the Cuckoo's Nest, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Sly Fox*, feels that the show will be stronger for the move. "When actors have to rethink what they've been doing, it often kindles a new creative spirit," says Pevzner. "The Jerome family in the play overcomes many an obstacle with love and humor, surely a theatre group that's been around almost 40 years can do the same."

The cast includes 15-year-old Andy Lantz as Eugene Morris Jerome, the budding writer who narrates the tale. Eugene's older brother, Stanley, is played by 17-year-old Matt Salloway, and their mother, Kate, is played lovingly by Adele Pevzner, a familiar face in local theatre. Eugene's father, Jack, is played by Bob Gillet, another familiar local actor, while as Kate's sister, Blanche, newcomer Dorian Greenbaum brings a charm and sensitivity that lights up the stage. Rounding out the cast are Caitlin McGillicuddy, a high school student from Marshfield bursting with energy, as Nora, Eugene's cousin, and Jocelyn Greenbaum, a young actress from DJSHS, as Nora's younger sister. Pulling together the pieces is producer, Maureen Dinsmore.

Simon's *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, which opened in 1984, is still considered one of the best from this prolific writer. Critics went gaga. "The best play of the season. It will become a classic," wrote Clive Barnes in the *New York Post*. "A joyful winner! Neil Simon's best play in years will make you laugh, cry and remember. A glowing comedy that is funny, touching, and most of all honest," said the critic from channel 5 in New York. And the Associated Press wrote: "Absolutely brilliant. Hilarious, nostalgic, deeply touching, rich with understanding and love."

Laugh and enjoy some great stage moments with the Bay Players at *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. Tickets are available at Westwinds Bookshop or may be reserved by calling 582-1898.